

NAPSNet 18 August 2011

Recommended Citation

"NAPSNet 18 August 2011", NAPSNet Weekly Report, August 18, 2011,
<https://nautilus.org/napsnet/napsnet-weekly/napsnet-18-august-2011/>

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DETERRENCE: [A presidential policy directive for a new nuclear path](#), Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (10 August 2011)

Implementation of Obama's Nuclear Posture Review by the military will distort the Review's strategic goals and may lead the United States to revert to counter-force planning that is inconsistent with nuclear abolition, unless its translation into military warplans is constantly monitored and directed by the President.

- [From counterforce to minimal deterrence: a new nuclear policy on the path, toward eliminating nuclear weapons](#), Federation of American Scientists & the Natural Resources Defense Council (April 2009) [PDF, 0.9MB]
- [Getting MAD: nuclear mutual assured destruction, its origins and practice](#), Strategic Studies Institute (November 2004) [PDF, 1.34MB]

- [Minimum deterrence and its critics](#), Strategic Studies Quarterly, winter 2010 [PDF, 0.2MB]

AUSTRAL SECURITY: [US keeps an eagle eye on Asia](#), Australian (15 August 2011)

Increasing Chinese military might and ongoing US economic woes have contributed to escalating tensions in the Asia Pacific. During a recent visit to Australia, US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell called the Australian-US alliance a central part of the Asia-Pacific architecture. The following articles and interview examine China's growing impatience with the US and its long term impact on Australia.

- [US, China can live in peace: Campbell](#), Lateline-ABC (12 August 2011)
- [China and global governance](#), Lowy Institute (10 August 2011) [MP3, 22MB]
- [Dragon tries to slay US military](#), Asia Times (16 August 2011)

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: [Protest over chemical plant shows growing pressure on China from citizens](#), NYT (15 August 2011)

Over 12,000 demonstrators peacefully protested a chemical factory in Dalian, China, amid concerns that the site posed a serious health risk after a typhoon breached factory walls last week. Municipal leaders responded by vowing to close the factory, surprising China observers with its quick response to protestors' demands. In Quanzhou, however, violent protests broke out in response to authorities' mistreatment of citizens.

- [An enlightened hue to protests in China](#), Hindu (16 August 2011)
- [Order restored in China town after protest](#), Today Online (14 August 2011)

ENERGY SECURITY: [The future of natural gas: Coming soon to a terminal near you, shale gas should make the world a cleaner, safer place](#), Economist (06 August 2011)

One of several articles on the topic of the natural gas in The Economist notes that recent years' proliferation of shale gas projects in the U.S. have fundamentally changed the market, offering plentiful supplies at low prices. Shale gas has also changed international LNG markets, as producers targeting U.S. markets now must sell elsewhere, and may have an ongoing impact on gas geopolitics. But environmental uncertainties with shale gas remain.

- [The SAEB shale gas production subcommittee: Ninety-day report](#), Hill (11 August 2011) [PDF, 760.67KB]
- [Methane and the greenhouse-gas footprint of natural gas from shale formations](#), Climatic Change (13 March 2011)
- [Impact of shale gas development on global gas markets](#), Natural Gas and Electricity (April 2011)

DPRK: [SKorean president calls for cooperation with North as diplomats tentatively pursue nuke talks](#), Washington Post (15 August 2011)

ROK President Lee Myung-Bak called for "peace and cooperation" with North Korea and agreed to

allow limited humanitarian assistance to the DPRK in response to recent tropical storms. The North has also used less harsh language with regards to the ROK. KCNA news has refrained from attacking Lee Myung-Bak and the DPRK pledged to “improve inter-Korean relations” in a restrained response to criticism over the shelling of the inter-Korean maritime border.

- [Truth about shelling fabricated by S. Korean military warmongers exposed](#), KCNA (10 August 2011)
- [KCNA references to “traitor Lee Myung Bak”](#), Nautilus Institute (August 2011) [PDF, 14KB]
- [Why not opt for a “win-win” strategy for the Korean Peninsula?](#) Nautilus Institute (26 July 2011)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: [Assessing resilient urban systems: policy brief](#), Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research (April 2011) [932 KB, PDF]

Che Biggs et al. consider the ways in which stakeholders interact with community-scale energy and water infrastructure systems, and the implications for improving infrastructure resilience to climate change. They examine some key findings arising from research on the resilience and adaptive capacity of energy and water infrastructure systems in two Melbourne housing developments - one in the city’s outer north and the other in a rapidly gentrifying inner suburb.

- [Taking action for Victoria's future: Victorian climate change white paper](#), Victorian Government Department of Premier and Cabinet (July 2010) [3.63 MB, PDF]
- [Infrastructure and climate change risk assessment for Victoria](#), CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research (2007) [3.05 MB, PDF]

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Editors

- [Arabella Imhoff](#) & Mihiri Weerasinghe

Contributors

- Deterrence: [Peter Hayes](#)
- Governance and Civil Society: [Yi Kiho](#)
- Climate Change Adaptation: [Saleem Janjua](#)
- DPRK: [Scott Bruce](#)
- Energy Security: [David von Hippel](#)
- Austral Security: [Arabella Imhoff](#), [Mihiri Weerasinghe](#)

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Nautilus Institute

608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email:

nautilus@nautilus.org